

and for this reason H.R. 695 should be opposed.

DRURY PANTHER'S MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAMS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Drury Panther's Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving Teams. During the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Swimming & Diving National Championship this year the men placed second overall for the second year in a row and the women placed first overall for the second year in a row. I congratulate both the men and women for their tremendous success at the national level. Even though these teams are made of great athletes, their success did not come easily. It came by spending between twenty-four to thirty hours a week in the pool. It came swimming between forty-two and sixty miles, six days a week. When you stop and realize that their time and commitment to swimming and diving doesn't happen in isolated preparation but as full time students at a college known for their high academic standards, it causes you to appreciate these student-athletes even more for their accomplishments both individually and as a team.

The Drury Panther's Swimming and Diving program is a program of success. It has been compared to the tradition of Nebraska Cornhusker football or Kentucky basketball. Only four years ago, Drury entered competition at the NCAA Division II level and both teams placed third overall in the first and second years. Before entering Division II, the men's team won seven national championships back to back at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) level. The women's program was established in 1988 and claimed three national championships at the NAIA level before going on the NCAA Division II. Any athletic program becoming a national force in ten years is almost unheard of at any level of competition. Much of that credit goes to Coach Brian Reynold's, a former All-American swimmer for Drury. He has been named National-Coach-of-the-Year at the NAIA level and the women's NCAA Division II Coach of the Year last season.

I congratulate Coach Reynold's, his coaching staff and most especially the young men and women on the Drury Swimming and Diving team for their success this year and wish them continued successes in the years to come.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF MISS VALARIE K. WOLFE

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the

name of Valarie K. Wolfe, of Harrisburg, PA, in my congressional district. The late Miss Wolfe was a fourth-grade teacher at the Milton Hershey School, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, from 1967 to 1997. I am pleased to report that a flag of the United States of America was flown over the Capitol on February 6, 1998, in Miss Wolfe's honor.

The Milton Hershey School was founded with a Deed of Trust as a school for orphan boys in 1909 by the chocolate magnate Milton S. Hershey and his wife, Catherine, for they could not have children of their own. After Catherine's death, Mr. Hershey gave his life fortune to the school so that it would last in perpetuity. Today, the school has more than seventy-three hundred alumni and has an enrollment of over one thousand needy boys and girls.

Miss Wolfe, a recipient of the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award, was a graduate of Shippensburg University and a member of the Zion Lutheran Church, where she was a Sunday school teacher and played the piano. Miss Wolfe was also very active with the Dauphin Dog Training Club, where she was an instructor for many years. She often took her fourth-grade students to the Club to try to instill in them love and respect for animals. Her great love of animals was indicative of her kind, generous, and warm personality. In addition, Miss Wolfe enjoyed teaching children through drama, for she was involved in many of the plays presented in the elementary school, Memorial Hall. Throughout her long and extraordinary career, Miss Wolfe has made lasting impressions on those who have had the honor to have known her. She was well known for inspiring students and teachers alike during her three decades of service at Milton Hershey School.

Let the record reflect today that there is currently a void at the Milton Hershey School that will not soon be filled. Miss Wolfe always taught her fourth-grade pupils with dedication, understanding, patience, and love. I am honored to have had, in my congressional district, such a wonderful teacher who has touched the lives of so many. She will be missed, indeed.

THE PASSING OF FORMER MEMBER HON. BELLA ABZUG OF NEW YORK

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to note the passing of a former Member who, in fact, was a noteworthy Member of the Congress.

When Bella Abzug was first elected to the Congress in 1970, she had the distinction of becoming the first Jewish woman to serve in this chamber. She soon became a household word not only in her own Congressional District in Manhattan, but throughout the nation.

On her very first day in Congress, she introduced legislation requiring the immediate withdrawal of all American forces from Southeast Asia. Although her resolution was defeated, it served notice to the Congress, the White House, and the nation at large that here was a Congressperson who was willing to make waves on behalf of her beliefs.

Soon, Bella Abzug was famous for introducing the resolution which forced the White House to make public the so-called "Pentagon Papers." As an ardent supporter of the Equal Rights for Women Amendment to the Constitution, she is credited with coining the well known phrase: "A woman's place is in the House—and also the Senate!"

Although at the time Bella Abzug had a reputation for abrasiveness, in fact she paved the path for many other women who followed her into this chamber, and for this we owe her a tremendous debt.

In 1976, Bella Abzug conducted an unsuccessful campaign for U.S. Senate, in which she was defeated by DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, who continues to serve to this day. A year later, she was an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor of New York City. Although never again elected to public office, she remained a force for the causes she espoused until her death earlier today due to complications from heart surgery at the age of 77.

Bella survived her husband, Martin, an attorney, by 12 years. Those of us who knew Bella and Martin will never forget that dynamic team whose dedication was to a better life for all of us.

Bella Abzug will be buried at a private funeral on Thursday, with a public memorial at a time and location to be announced later.

To her daughters, Isobel and Eve Gail, and to her sister, Helen Alexander, we extend our heartfelt condolences. The world is a better place because of Bella Abzug.

HONORING MR. ELIO ROCA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today it is an honor to recognize Mr. Elio Roca, a musical artist and actor well known to Hispanic audiences.

The Cuban patriot Jose Marti once said: "Men of action, above all, those whose actions are guided by love, live forever. Other famous men, those of much talk and few deeds, soon evaporate. Action is the dignity of greatness." Those words describe Elio Roca.

Mr. Roca has sung to sold out concerts in his native Argentina and has realized dozens of appearances on stages in Latin America and the United States. His performances at Madison Square Garden and the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles won critical acclaim. Mr. Roca is also known as one of the brightest actors in Latin America.

It must also be noted that this Argentinean native has been a supporter of human rights and a crusader against the Castro tyranny. He has written and dedicated a song entitled "To My Cuba I Shall Return" for all those Cubans who live in exile. Mr. Roca has been invited to tour the oppressed Cuban nation time and time again, and his answer has always been the same simple yet powerful response of a man of action, "never, never while Fidel is there."

Mr. Speaker, Elio Roca is a talented artist, a proud Argentinean, a friend of the Cuban people and above all, to quote a Cuban patriot "a man of action."